

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing Amendments claims 14, 15, 22, 24, 25, 31-39, and 41-53 remain pending in the application. The Examiner has allowed claims 43 and 44. Claims 14, 22, 43, and 48-50 are independent. Claims 22 and 48-50 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. The changes are being made without prejudice to the Applicants' ability to reintroduce subject matter contained in any cancelled or amended claim, or to introduce additional claims.

The Examiner has rejected claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite for use of the term "standard-form". The Applicants assume that this rejection would also apply to claims 48-50. The affected claims have been amended to remove the offensive term, while continuing to define the shape of the cover, and it is believed that any ground for the indefiniteness rejection has been removed. No new matter has been added by the amendment, and the amendment is fully supported by the description, including the drawings.

The Examiner has rejected many of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lee. In addition, the Examiner has rejected many other claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Lee in view of Blackman et al. The Applicants note that the filing date of the provisional application on which the instant application is based is prior to the filing date and the priority date of Lee. The claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) has been perfected by amending the specification to expressly refer to the provisional application on which it is based. The instant application as filed contained substantially the same written

description as the provisional application, and the instant application is fully supported thereby. Accordingly, the Applicants request that all claim rejections based on Lee be withdrawn.

In addition, the Examiner has rejected claims 48-53 based on Blackman et al alone. The Applicants note that as Blackman et al is a one piece unit semantic difficulties arise in comparing Blackman et al and the devices of claims 48-53; however, if it is assumed for the sake of argument (with which the Applicants expressly state that they disagree) that the “frame” of Blackman et al is the side walls 30 and the “cover” is front wall 24, including the upper cavity 38, then the “cover” (front wall 24) presumably mounts to the “rectangular frame” (side walls 30). The component (switch 122) then mounts at a depth near the bottom of the “rectangular frame” (front wall 24). This is necessitated by the integrated nature of Blackman et al. and does not fall within claims 48-53.

It is believed that all of the claims, both those amended and those previously introduced, are distinguished from the cited reference and are in an allowable form. This includes previously rejected dependent claims where one or more of the underlying independent or dependent claims has been amended or is otherwise allowable.

Conclusion

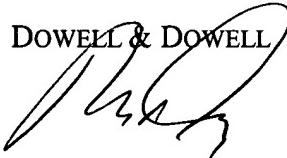
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

Cunningham et al
Appl. No. 09/767,959

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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